

The total amount of S&E space in the panel of 29 HBCUs decreased somewhat between 1992 and 1994, from 6.6 million to 6.1 million NASF. S&E research space in the panel of 29 HBCUs was basically unchanged at 1.8 million NASF in 1992 and 1994; thus, the decline occurred primarily in non-research space. S&E research space as a percentage of total S&E space has steadily increased among the panel of 29 HBCUs since 1988, when the amount was 18 percent.

In 1994, two fields occupied half of all the research space in the panel of 29 HBCUs: the agricultural sciences and the biological sciences. (These two fields accounted for 37 percent of the research space in the total 565 research-performing institutions in this study.) (See Table 1-6, page 1-9.) The amount of engineering research space was also relatively high in the 29 HBCUs, occupying 18 percent of all research space. The physical sciences and the medical sciences each comprised 12 percent of the total (Table 6-2).

Table 6-2. Trends in the distribution of science and engineering research space at Historically Black Colleges and Universities by field: 1988–1994

<i>Field</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1994¹</i>
	[Net assignable square feet in thousands]			
Total research space	1,112	1,440	1,782	1,759
	[Percentage of total]			
Engineering	14	12	16	18
Physical sciences	16	13	13	12
Environmental sciences	1	2	2	2
Mathematics	1	2	2	1
Computer sciences	4	2	2	2
Agricultural sciences	23	30	23	27
Biological sciences	21	20	21	23
Medical sciences	16	14	16	12